



DEPARTMENT OF VETERANS AFFAIRS

Billing Code 8320-01

[OMB Control No. 2900-0600]

Proposed Information Collection (Regulation for Reconsideration of Denied Claims) Activity:
Comment Request

AGENCY: Veterans Health Administration, Department of Veterans Affairs

ACTION: Notice

SUMMARY: The Veterans Health Administration (VHA) is announcing an opportunity for public comment on the proposed collection of certain information by the agency. Under the Paperwork Reduction Act (PRA) of 1995, Federal agencies are required to publish notice in the *Federal Register* concerning each proposed collection of information, including each proposed extension of a currently approved, and allow 60 days for public comment in response to the notice. This notice solicits comments on information needed to request an informal review of veterans' denied healthcare benefits claims.

DATES: Written comments and recommendations on the proposed collection of information should be received on or before [Insert date 60 days after date of publication in the FEDERAL REGISTER].

ADDRESSES: Submit written comments on the collection of information through Federal Docket Management System (FDMS) at www.Regulations.gov; or to Cynthia Harvey-Pryor, Veterans Health Administration (10B4), Department of Veterans Affairs, 810 Vermont Avenue, NW, Washington, DC 20420; or e-mail: cynthia.harvey-

pryor@va.gov. Please refer to "OMB Control No. 2900-0600" in any correspondence.

During the comment period, comments may be viewed online through FDMS.

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT: Cynthia Harvey-Pryor at (202) 461-5870.

SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION: Under the PRA of 1995 (Public Law 104-13; 44 U.S.C. 3501 – 3521), Federal agencies must obtain approval from the Office of Management and Budget (OMB) for each collection of information they conduct or sponsor. This request for comment is being made pursuant to Section 3506(c)(2)(A) of the PRA.

With respect to the following collection of information, VHA invites comments on: (1) whether the proposed collection of information is necessary for the proper performance of VHA's functions, including whether the information will have practical utility; (2) the accuracy of VHA's estimate of the burden of the proposed collection of information; (3) ways to enhance the quality, utility, and clarity of the information to be collected; and (4) ways to minimize the burden of the collection of information on respondents, including through the use of automated collection techniques or the use of other forms of information technology.

Title: Regulation for Reconsideration of Denied Claims.

OMB Control Number: 2900-0600.

Type of Review: Extension of a currently approved collection.

Abstract: Veterans who disagree with the initial decision denying their healthcare benefits in whole or in part may obtain reconsideration by submitting a request in writing within one year of the date of the initial decision. The request must state why the

decision is in error and include any new and relevant information not previously considered. This process reduces both formal appeals and allows decision making to be more responsive to veterans using the VA healthcare system.

Affected Public: Individuals or households.

Estimated Total Annual Burden: 50,826 hours.

Estimated Average Burden Per Respondent: 30 minutes.

Frequency of Response: On occasion.

Estimated Number of Respondents: 101,652.

DATED: April 8, 2013

By direction of the Secretary:

William F. Russo,
Deputy Director,
Office of Regulations Policy and Management,
Office of General Counsel,
Department of Veterans Affairs.

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